(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware that old bogies are being used in the Trivandrum bound Howrah Express at present;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government for providing new bogies to the said Train?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. 6323/6324 Trivandrum-Howrah Express is having combined link with 6321/6322 Trivandrum-Guwahati Express.

(c) to (e). Vacum brake coaches have been deployed on 6323/6324 Trivandrum-Howrah. Express. Railways are now manufacturing only air brake coaches which are being deployed on trains in a phased manner.

Conversion of Theatres into Commercial Complexes

1887. SHRI G.M. KUNTURKAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that approx. 500 cinema theatres throughout the country either have been closed or have been converted into commercial complexes creating a threat to film industry; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a)and (b) According to information available in the films Division, a total of 466 cinema houses remained closed in the entire country during the last 8 years. Establishment and closure of cinema houses is in the private sector and is governed by market forces. Licensing of theatres fall within the purview of State Government/Union Territory Administrations.

[Translation]

Ban on Advertisements of Cigarette, Tobacco and Liquor

1888. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether some advertisements on cigarette, tobacco and liquor had been telecast/are being telecast on varios Doordarshan Kendras during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have recieved representations/suggestions to stop or put a legal ban on these advertisements; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

[English]

Announcements regarding Arrival and Departure of Trains in Hindi

1889. SHRI RUP CHAND MURMU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that annoncements about arrival and departure of trains made in Northern Railway through the public addressing system are in Hindi only;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have instructed the Northern Railway to announce in English also in order to mitigate hardships to non-Hindi speaking passengers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). As per existing practice annoncements over public address system are bieng made in Hindi followed by English in Hindi speaking States and also in Regional language or languages concerned in other than Hindi speaking States.

Tourism Development Scheme for Konkan Region

1890. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have drawn up a tourism development scheme for the Konkan region;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the agreements between Konkan Railway Corporation and tour operators from Hyderabad in this regard; and

(d) the role played by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a)and (b). The State Govt. of Maharashtra has identified Sindhu Durg Distt. in Konkan region as special